

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

#### DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

#### CONTINUING NATIONAL EMERGENCY RELATING TO CUBA AND REGULATION, ANCHORAGE AND MOVEMENT OF VESSELS—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 108-42)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the Federal Register and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice, stating that the emergency declared with respect to the Government of Cuba's destruction of two unarmed U.S.-registered civilian aircraft in international airspace north of Cuba on February 24, 1996, is to continue in effect beyond March 1, 2003, to the Federal Register for publication.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 27, 2003.

#### RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Small Business:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, February 27, 2003.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

MR. SPEAKER: Effective February 27, 2003, I hereby take a leave of absence from my position on the House Small Business Committee due to my appointment to the Committee on House Administration.

Sincerely,

ROBERT BRADY,  
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.  
There was no objection.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain 1-minute speeches.

#### HONORING G. FRANKLIN CRUMPLER, HOKE COUNTY CORONER

(Mr. HAYES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the accomplishments of G. Franklin Crumpler, coroner for Hoke County, North Carolina. Mr. Crumpler holds the distinction of being the longest-serving elected official in North Carolina.

In 1960, G. Franklin Crumpler was appointed coroner for Hoke County after the serving coroner moved away. He served the unexpired term for 3 years and then ran for the office to which he was elected and has served in this capacity consecutively for the past 42 years.

He is married to the former Dayne Capps and has two sons, a daughter, and 11 grandchildren. Frank and his wife moved to Raeford in April of 1960 and opened a funeral home. Since then they have purchased a funeral home in Red Springs, North Carolina, and are part owners of LaFayette Funeral Home in Fayetteville.

Frank was born in nearby Sampson County in 1934 to the late Margaret Bradshaw and Gordon Crumpler. Frank graduated from Clinton High School in Clinton, North Carolina; Cincinnati College of Embalming; and Missouri Auction School in Kansas City, Missouri. He is a funeral service licensee, an auctioneer, and sells insurance.

He is a member and lifetime deacon of Raeford Baptist Church, past president and lieutenant governor of Raeford Kiwanis Club of which he was awarded "Man of the Year." He is on the board of directors of Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce and past president of Red Springs Chamber of Commerce. He is also a mason and a Shriner.

Please join me in expressing the appreciation of the House to Mr. G. Franklin Crumpler for over 4 decades of dedicated service to the citizens of Hoke County, North Carolina.

□ 1745

#### AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCE AGAINST IRAQ RESOLUTION

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks and include therein extraneous material.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, \$100 billion, thousands of innocent lives of Iraqi women and children and the lives of our United States military and other military, I do not consider that to be collateral damage. Mr. Speaker, I believe it is imperative that this Congress engage in a debate that is being asked of the United Nations Security Council.

So today I am asking the Speaker to bring to the floor for our debate H. Con. Res. 2, a simple resolution that simply allows us to re-debate the Iraqi war resolution in light of the information regarding North Korea, in light of the information and question as to whether or not the United States is under imminent danger of attack, in light of the question being raised whether the United States should engage in a preemptive unilateral attack against Iraq, and in light of the fact that the Constitution does say that it is the United States Congress under Article I, section 8 that should declare war, but most importantly, Mr. Speaker, in order to save lives.

It is imperative for this Congress to stand up and be heard and be counted and not to abdicate its duty to save lives on behalf of the American people and on behalf of world peace.

I include this letter for the RECORD.

WASHINGTON, DC,  
February 27, 2003.

The Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: We are writing to request floor consideration for H. Con. Res. 2, which expresses the sense of Congress that the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 be repealed. I introduced this legislation on January 7, 2003 to bring renewed debate and to re-examine the decision to authorize force against Iraq.

Since the passage of Public Law 107-243, which authorizes the President to use force against Iraq, the world is a different place. We have a dire situation in North Korea and our policies dealing with nations accused of having weapons of mass destruction should be consistent. In addition, many of our long-time allies are advocating that the U.N. inspections should be given more time to continue their work in Iraq. If the President intends to seek a new resolution in the United Nations, thereby allowing the U.N. Security Council to re-debate the question of force against Iraq, then it is more than reasonable for Congress to re-examine its decision based upon all the information available now, so as not to abdicate its constitutional duty.

Congress is constitutionally obligated to debate and to vote on any decision to go to war. Article I, 8 of the U.S. Constitution vests the authority to declare war solely with Congress. We are calling for a vigorous debate before we launch a probable preemptive unilateral strike against Iraq. It is Congress that must ultimately decide to go to war.

We would like to request that H. Con. Res. 2 be brought to the floor for debate. Before the President uses force against Iraq, approval and considered debate should occur in the Congress.

Sincerely,

Sheila Jackson-Lee, Diane E. Watson,  
John Conyers, Jr., Raúl M. Grijalva,  
Danny K. Davis, Jim McDermott, Bob Filner, Bert Saunders, José E. Serrano,